

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed March 23, 2007, has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 18, 19, 21-23, 34, 35 and 37-39 have been amended and claims 1-17, 20, 24-33, 36 and 40-50 have been canceled. Claims 18-19, 21-23, 34-35 and 37-39 are pending in the application.

In paragraph 4 on page 2 of the Office Action, the title of the invention was objected to as not being descriptive.

Applicant respectfully traverses the objection to the title of the invention, but in the interest of expediting prosecution has amended the title as suggested.

In paragraph 5 on page 3 of the Office Action, the disclosure was objected to because of certain informalities.

Applicant respectfully traverses the objections to the disclosure, but in the interest of expediting prosecution has amended the disclosure as suggested.

In paragraph 8 on page 4 of the Office Action, claims 18, 34 and 50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Beach et al.

However, in paragraph 10 on page 6 of the Office Action, claims 19-23 and 35-39 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections, but in the interest of expediting prosecution have amended claims 18 and 34 by incorporating the language of objected to claims 20 and 36 respectively. Claims 19 and 35 have been amended to further limit claims 18 and 34 respectively in view of the incorporation of the language of objected to claims 20 and 36 into claims 18 and 34. Claims 21, 23, 37 and 39 have been amended to correct their dependency in view of the incorporation of the language of objected to claims 20 and 36 into claims 18 and 34.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 18 and 34, as amended to incorporate the language of objected to claims 20 and 36, are now in condition for allowance.

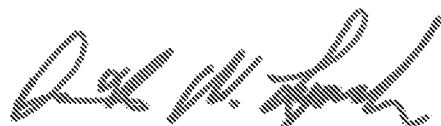
Dependent claims 19, 21-23, 35 and 37-39 are also patentable over the cited reference, because they incorporate all of the limitations of the corresponding independent claim 18 and 34. Further dependent claims 19, 21-23, 35 and 37-39 recite additional novel elements and limitations. Applicant reserves the right to argue independently the patentability of these additional novel aspects. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claims 19, 21-23, 35 and 37-39 are patentable over the cited references, and request that the objections to the independent claims be withdrawn.

On the basis of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of this application and its allowance are requested.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Attorney for Applicant, David W. Lynch, at 423-757-0264.

Respectfully submitted,

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